

Message Text

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R 121932Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY QUITO

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E.O11652: NA

TAGS: OCLR,TPHY, PE, EC, CI, TBIO

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SUBJECT: R/V MELVILLE

1. UPON COMPLETION R/V MELVILLE COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONAL SOUTHERN OCEAN STUDIES (ISOS) IN DRAKE PASSAGE VESSEL RETURNS TO SAN DIEGO. OTHER SCIENTISTS AND THEIR PROGRAMS, NOW SCHEDULED ABOARD MELVILLE TO UTILIZE AVAILABLE SHIPTIME DURING WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN UNPRODUCTIVE HOMEWARD TRANSIT.

2 DR. LAVERNE D. KULM, OF OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY, DESIRES TO CONDUCT SERIES OF GEOLOGICAL/GEOPHYSICAL OBSERVATIONS OFF COASTS CHILE AND PERU. WORK WOULD INCLUDE SERIES OF REFLECTION PROFILES USING LOW FREQUENCY TRANSDUCER (3.5 KHZ); ALSO EXTENSIVE CORING AND ROCK DREDGING WILL BE ATTEMPTED. PROFILES EXPECTED TO GIVE LIMITED PENETRATION, BUT GOOD DEFINITION UPPER SEDIMENT LAYER.

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CORES AND DREDGE HAULS WILL FURNISH SAMPLES FOR LATER

STUDY.

3. DR. PETER LONSDALE, CHIEF SCIENTIST ON LEG 3 MELVILLE COCOTOU EXPEDITION IN NOV 1974, WAS UNABLE COMPLETE ALL SCIENTIFIC OBJECTIVES DUE TO EQUIPMENT FAILURE. HE WOULD LIKE ANOTHER TRY AFTER KULM COMPLETES HIS WORK

OFF ECUADOR COAST APPROX 5 THRU 9 MAY. DR. LONSDALE WOULD CONDUCT CLOSELY SPACED SERIES OF SALINITY-TEMPERATURE VS DEPTH OBSERVATIONS, AND DEPLOY AND RETRIEVE A CURRENT METER. WORK AREA 1A NEAR 00 DEG 20 MIN SOUTH LAT, 081 DEG 00 MIN W LONG.

4. SANTIAGO, LIMA REQUEST POSTS INITIATE CLEARANCE REQUEST MARINE SCIENCE RESEARCH PROGRAM CONCERNING GOC AND GOP CONTINENTAL SHELF. DEPT POUCHING ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE MATERIAL, INCLUDING TRACK CHARTLET AND CREW LIST. CHILE DATES APPROX APRIL 5 TO 20; PERU APRIL 20 TO MAY 9.

5. QUITO: DEPT POUCHING INFO DR. LONSDALE'S WORK; WILL ADVISE SCRIPPS TO MAKE DIRECT REQUEST OF GOE EMBASSY HERE. PLEASE FOLLOW UP YOUR END.

6. VESSEL INFO AND ITINERARY: R/V MELVILLE OPERATED BY SCRIPPS INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY, LA JOLLA, CAL; LENGTH 245 FT, BEAM 46 FT, DRAFT 15 FT, DISPLACE 1915 TONS, CREW OF 21 WITH 25 IN SCIENTIFIC PARTY. RADIO CALL SIGN WECB. MASTER ALAN W. PHINNEY. CHILEAN OBSERVER WELCOME, SHOULD BOARD DURING VESSEL'S 1-5 APRIL USHUAIA CALL IF POSSIBLE. PERUVIAN OBSERVER ALSO WOULD BE ACCOMMODATED; HE COULD JOIN AT ANTOFAGASTA (ASSUMING VESSEL PUTS CHILEAN ASHORE THERE), AND COULD DEBARK IN PANAMA 11 MAY. IN VIEW SHORT TIME VESSEL NEAR ECUADOR, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TAKE EC OBSERVER ON. IF IT APPEARS NECESSARY, PLEASE ADVISE DEPT SOONEST. DATA WILL OF

COURSE BE AVAILABLE TO HOST GOVTS. INGERSOLL

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